IN THE CLAIMS:

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for dividing, compressing and transmitting video data that uses a plurality of channels for transmission, ~~at least~~ comprising:

a first encoding section for encoding an original picture and transmitting ~~it~~ an encoded picture with a first channel;

a first compensation section for generating a first compensated original picture obtained by adding ~~and subtracting~~ to~~/from~~ said original picture a value obtained by dispersing an encoding error occurred in said first encoding section to the remaining channels; and

a second encoding section for encoding said first compensated original picture and transmitting ~~it~~ an encoded compensated picture through a second channel.

Claim 2 (Original): An apparatus for dividing, compressing and transmitting video data according to claim 1, wherein when said first compensated original picture is designated as S(2), said S(2) is expressed by the following expression (3);

$$S(2)=\{(S(1)-C(1)\}/(N-1)+S(1) \ldots (3)$$

wherein S(1) denotes an original picture, C(1) denotes decoded data, and N denotes the total number of channels.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for dividing, compressing and transmitting video data according to claim 1, further comprising:

an i-th (i=2, 3, . . . , N-1) compensation section for generating an i-th compensated original picture obtained by adding ~~and subtracting~~ to~~/from~~ said original picture a value obtained by dispersing an encoding error occurred in an i-th encoding section to the remaining channels; and

an (i+1)-th encoding section for encoding said i-th compensated original picture and transmitting ~~it~~ an encoded i-th compensated picture through an (i+1)-th channel.

Claim 4 (Original): An apparatus for dividing, compressing and transmitting video data according to claim 3, wherein when said i-th compensated original picture is designated as S(i+1), said S(i+1) is expressed by the following expression (4);

$$S(i+1) = \{s(1) \times 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{i} c(k) / (N - i) + S(1) \quad \ldots 4$$

wherein S(1) denotes an original picture, C(k) denotes decoded data, and N denotes the total number of channels.